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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/691,888	10/23/2003	Timothy P. McKee	MFCP.110115	8996

45809   7590   08/18/2006

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EXAMINER
LE, MIRANDA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2167	

DATE MAILED: 08/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/691,888	MCKEE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Miranda Le	2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>24 May 2006</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-28</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-28</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>04/24/06</u>.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This communication is responsive to Amendment, filed 05/24/06.

Claims 1-28 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 9, 13, 18, 25 are independent

claims. In the Amendment, claims 1, 9, 13, 18, 25 have been amended. This action is made

Final.

Information Disclosure Statement

2.   Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement, filed 04/24/06, has been received, entered

into the record, and considered. See attached form PTO-1449.

Claim Objections

3.   Claim 17 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 17, line 2, "one or

more related items includes" should be changed to "one or more related items include".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless:
>
> (e) the invention was described in
>
> (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before
> the invention by the applicant for patent or
>
> (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention
> by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section
> 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only

if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such
treaty in the English language.

5.   Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Horn et al. (US

Pub. No. 20040177319).

Horn anticipated independent claims 1, 9, 13, 18, 25 by the following:

As per claim 1, Horn teaches a computer system for presenting related items in a

universal data store to a user, the system comprising:

a universal data store *(i.e. Object Store, [0029])* containing a plurality of items *(i.e. a*

grouping of objects, [0022]) stored in accordance with a universal data schema *(i.e. Hierarchical*

Storage Management, [0042]) and containing relational information *(i.e. a set of properties,*

[0027]) corresponding to at least a portion *(i.e. metadata, [0027])* of said plurality of items,

wherein the relational information allows relationships *(i.e. link metadata, [0026])* between two

or more the plurality of items *(i.e. reference objects, [0043])* to be determined, wherein at least a

portion of said relationships control the life-time *(i.e. dates and times, [0027], last modified date,*

[0152], time-based collections, [0141]) of at least a portion of said plurality of items *([0038-*

0044]); and

a shell *(Figs. 4, 7a-7c, 8, 9a)* for presenting said plurality of items to a user *(i.e. viewing*

relationships between multiple objects, [0038]) wherein the shell is configured to present a

selected item to a user *(i.e. these objects to a display viewable by a user in response to user*

input, [0038]) and is further configured to utilize said relational information to present one or

more items in said data store which are related to said selected item *(i.e. including information*

organization personalized for each individual user based on preferences selected by the user,

[0039]) ([0038-0044; 0158-0161]).

As to claims 9, 25, Horn teaches a computer-implemented method for presenting related

items in a universal data store to a user, the method comprising:

accessing data in said universal data store *(i.e. Object Store, [0029])*, wherein said

universal data store stores a plurality of items *(i.e. a grouping of objects, [0022])* in accordance

with a universal data schema *(i.e. Hierarchical Storage Management, [0042])*, and wherein at

least a portion *(i.e. metadata, [0027])* of said plurality of items contain relational information

(i.e. a set of properties, [0027]) which allows relationships *(i.e. link metadata, [0026])* between

said plurality of items to be determined *(i.e. reference objects, [0043]) ([0038-0044])*;

utilizing said relational information to determine a relationship between a selected item

and one or more of the items containing said relational information in the data store *(i.e.*

informational objects including recognizing, organizing, creating and viewing relationships

between multiple objects , [0038])([0038-0044]).

displaying *(i.e. viewing relationships between multiple objects, [0038], Figs. 4, 7a-7c, 8,*

9a) said selected item *(i.e. these objects to a display viewable by a user in response to user input,*

[0038]) and one or more related items to the user *(i.e. including information organization*

personalized for each individual user based on preferences selected by the user, [0039]) ([0038-

0044; 0158-0161]);

receiving a user input *(i.e. user-defined categorization, [0043])* causing a change in said

relationship *(i.e. updates stored reference objects' metadata, [0044]) ([0038-0044]); and*

deleting *(i.e. removes the items from the collection, [0167], objects are deleted, [0226])*at

least one of said plurality of items from said universal data store in response to said change *(i.e.*

Synchronizing with Changes, [0178-0179], Collections respond to changes, [0226]) ([0165-0167; 0226-0231]).

As per claim 13, Horn teaches one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions for performing a method for presenting related items in a universal data store to a user, the method comprising:

accessing data in said universal data store *(i.e. Object Store, [0029]),* wherein said universal data store stores a plurality of items *(i.e. a grouping of objects, [0022])* in accordance with a universal data schema *(i.e. Hierarchical Storage Management, [0042]),* and wherein at least a portion *(i.e. metadata, [0027])* of said plurality of items contain relational information *(i.e. a set of properties, [0027])* which allows relationships *(i.e. link metadata, [0026])* between two or more of said plurality of items to be determined *(i.e. reference objects, [0043]),* wherein at least a portion of said relationships designate one or more source items *(i.e. selected or incoming objects' source data, [0043])* and one or more target items *(i.e. reference objects, [0043]) ([0038-0044]);*

utilizing said relational information to determine a relationship between a selected item and one or more of the items containing said relational information in the data store *(i.e. informational objects including recognizing, organizing, creating and viewing relationships between multiple objects , [0038])([0038-0044]);*

presenting *(i.e. viewing relationships between multiple objects, [0038], Figs. 4, 7a-7c, 8, 9a)* said selected item *(i.e. these objects to a display viewable by a user in response to user input, [0038])* and one or more related items to the user *(i.e. including information organization*

personalized for each individual user based on preferences selected by the user, [0039]) ([0038-0044; 0158-0161]);

receiving a user input altering at least one of said one or more source items or altering at least a portion of said relationships *(i.e. generate and manage informational objects by special metadata linking to reference objects created, received or selected and/or input by users, [0039]) ([0038-0044]); and*

deleting at least one of said one or more target items from said universal data store *(i.e. removes the items from the collection, [0167], objects are deleted, [0226])* if said at least one target item is not related to at least one of said one or more source items *(i.e. Synchronizing with Changes, [0178-0179], Collections respond to changes, [0226]) ([0165-0167; 0226-0231]).*

As per claim 18, Horn teaches a shell for presenting related items in a universal data store to a user, the shell comprising:

a data store interaction component *(i.e. Object Store, [0029])* which retrieves data associated with one or more items *(i.e. a grouping of objects, [0022])* from the universal data store, wherein said one or more items are stored in accordance with a universal data schema *(i.e. Hierarchical Storage Management, [0042])* and at least a portion *(i.e. metadata, [0027])* of said one or more items contain relational information *(i.e. a set of properties, [0027])* that allows relationships *(i.e. link metadata, [0026])* between two or more items *(i.e. reference objects, [0043])* to be determined, wherein at least a portion of said relationships has associated life-time management semantics *(i.e. dates and times, [0027], last modified date, [0152], time-based collections, [0141]) [0178-0179) ([0165-0167]);*

a related item presentation component which utilizes said retrieved data to present related

items to a user *(i.e. viewing relationships between multiple objects, [0038], Figs.4, 7a-7c, 8, 9a)*,

wherein the relationship presentation component is configured to present a selected item to a user

(i.e. these objects to a display viewable by a user in response to user input, [0038]) and is further

configured to utilize said relational information to present one or more items in said data store

which are related to said selected item *(i.e. including information organization personalized for*

each individual user based on preferences selected by the user, [0039]) ([0038-0044; 0158-

0161]);and

an item life-time management control *(i.e. Synchronizing with Changes, [0178-0179],*

Collections respond to changes, [0226]) which utilizes said associate life-time management

semantics to delete one or more items from the universal data store *(i.e. removes the items from*

the collection, [0167], objects are deleted, [0226]) in response to a change in at least a portion of

said relationships *([0165-0167;0226-0231])*.

As to claims 2, 19, 26, Horn teaches the relational information corresponding to one or

more of said plurality of items includes a set of item characteristics *([0038-0044; 0158-0161])*.

As to claims 3, 27, Horn teaches said shell is configured to present one or more of said

set of item characteristics to a user *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161])*.

As per claim 4, Horn teaches said shell is configured to accept a user input representing a selection to view one or more items in the data store having one of said item characteristics *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161]).*

As per claim 5, Horn teaches said shell is configured to present one or more items in the data store which share one or more of said item characteristics *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161]).*

As per claim 6, Horn teaches the shell is configured to present at least a portion of said relational information. *([0165-0167; 0226-0231]).*

As per claim 7, Horn teaches the shell is configured to accept a user input representing a selection to view items in the data store which are related to said selected item *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161]).*

As per claim 8, Horn teaches said relational information corresponding to the selected item includes a set of item characteristics associated with the selected item and wherein said user input represents a selection to view one or more items in the data store which share one of said set of item characteristics with the selected item *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161]).*

As to claims 10, Horn teaches the displaying of said selected item and one or more

related items includes displaying at least a portion of said relational information to a user *(Figs.*

4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161]).

As to claims 11, Horn teaches said method further comprises receiving a user input

representing a selection to view one or more items in the data store which are related to said

selected item *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161]).*

As per claim 12, Horn teaches the displaying of said selected item and one or more

related items is responsive to said input *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161]).*

As per claim 14, Horn teaches the relational information includes a set of item

characteristics *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161]).*

As per claim 15, Horn teaches accessing data in said universal data store is in response

to a user input representing a selection to view one or more items in the data store which are

related to said selected item *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161]).*

As per claim 16, Horn teaches said relational information corresponding to the selected

item includes a set of item characteristics associated with the selected item and wherein said user

input represents a selection to view one or more items in the data store which share one or more

item characteristics with the selected item *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161]).*

As per claim 17, Horn teaches the presenting of said selected item and one or more

related items include presenting at least a portion of said relational information to a user *(Figs. 4-*

6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161]).

As per claim 20, Horn teaches said related item presentation component is configured to

present one or more of said set of item characteristics to a user *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-*

0044; 0158-0161]).

As per claim 21, Horn teaches said related item presentation component is configured to

present one or more items in the data store which share one of said item characteristics *(Figs. 4-*

6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161]).

As per claim 22, Horn teaches the related item presentation component is configured to

present at least a portion of said relational information *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044;*

0158-0161]).

As per claim 23, Horn teaches the shell is configured to accept a user input representing

a selection to view items in the data store which are related to said selected item *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-*

7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-0161]).

As per claim 24, Horn teaches said relational information corresponding to the selected

item includes a set of item characteristics associated with the selected item and wherein said user

input represents a selection to view one or more items in the data store which share one of said

set of item characteristics with the selected item *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a; [0038-0044; 0158-*

0161]).

As per claim 28, Horn teaches said means for accessing data in said universal data store

interacts with said data store in response to a user input representing a selection to view one or

more items in the data store having one of said item characteristics *(Figs. 4-6, 7a-7c, 8, 9a;*

[0038-0044; 0158-0161]).

Response to Arguments

6.   Applicant's arguments regarding reference Brockway does not teach the features of

amended claims 1, 9, 13, 18, 25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s)

of rejection.

Conclusion

7.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37
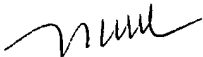
CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

      Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to Miranda Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-4112. The
examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

      If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, John R. Cottingham, can be reached on (571) 272-7079. The fax number to this Art
Unit is 571-273-8300.

      Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be
directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

      Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent
Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications
may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished
applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR
system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private
PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Miranda Le
August 15, 2006

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